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- (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): NORTH SHORE-LONG ISLAND JEWISH RESEARCH IN-STITUTE [US/US]; 350 Community Drive, Manhasset, NY 11030 (US).
- (72) Inventors; and
- (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): MESSMER, Bradley, T. [US/US]; 238 Waukena Avenue, Oceanside, NY 11572 (US). CHIORAZZI, Nicholas [IT/US]; 18 Bliss Avenue, Tenafly, NJ 07670 (US). ALBESIANO, Emilia [IT/US]; 160 South Middle Neck Road, #3L, Great Neck, NY 11021 (US).
- (74) Agents: ARNOLD, Craig, J. et al.; Amster, Rothstein & Ebenstein LLP, 90 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10016 (US).

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(54) Title: METHODS AND COMPOSITIONS FOR DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT OF B CELL CHRONIC LYMPHOCYTIC **LEUKEMIA**

(57) Abstract: Provided are isolated and purified preparations of a combination of a light chain antibody gene and a heavy chain antibody gene, where the light chain and heavy chain antibody genes are the same among more than one patient with B cell chronic lymphocytic leukemia (B-CLL). Vectors comprising those genes and cells comprising those vectors are also provided, as are isolated and purified antibodies encoded by the antibody genes. Anti-idiotype antibodies, peptides, and aptamers that bind to the antigenbinding region of an antibody encoded by the antibody genes are additionally provided, as are multimeric molecules comprising multiple binding sites that bind to the antigen-binding region of an antibody encoded by the antibody genes. Methods of determining whether a patient with B cell chronic lymphocytic leukemia (B-CLL) has a form of B-CLL that is susceptible to treatment directed to eliminating idiotype specific B cell receptor-bearing B-CLL cells are also provided, as are methods of following the progression of treatment of B-CLL in the patient. Additionally, methods of treating a patient having B-CLL are provided, as are methods of identifying a therapeutic agent for B-CLL.



